

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter having a plurality of resonant cavities ~~(15)~~ such that an inner ~~(18)~~ wall separates two adjoining resonant cavities ~~(15)~~ which have top and bottom walls and which are coupled by means of a coupling (16) means, characterised in that the inner (18) wall includes a slot defined by at least one edge surface intermediate said top and bottom walls and extending from said one edge surface to an upper or lower edge of said inner wall is configured to include a slot (20) such that, with the coupling (16) means makes making electrical contact with at least said an edge surface of the slot and extending in a direction substantially perpendicular to a plane of said inner wall (20).

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 1, wherein the edge surface of the slot ~~(20)~~ is the a horizontal edge surface extending in a direction substantially parallel to said top wall.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 3, wherein both the inner ~~(18)~~ wall and the coupling ~~(16)~~ means are made of metallic material.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~irect coupled resonator filter according to claim 1, each cavity (15)-having a resonator-(14).

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~irect coupled resonator filter according to claim 5, wherein the resonator (14)-is a dielectric resonator.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~irect coupled resonator filter according to claim 5, wherein the resonator (14)-is a coaxial resonator.

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~irect coupled resonator filter according to claim 4, wherein the slot (20)-~~being~~is located in ~~the~~an upper edge surface of the inner (18)-wall and has a closed bottom defined by said inner wall.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~irect coupled resonator filter according to claim 8, each inner (18)-wall being in contact with an upper lid, surrounding walls, other inner walls and a bottom lid of ~~the~~a housing (11)-of the filter.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~Dielectric~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 9, a mechanical fastening (17)-means being adapted to fasten each coupling (16)-means to each inner (18)-wall.

11. (Currently Amended) A Dielectric resonator filter according to claim 10, the mechanical fastening (17) means being a screw.

12. (Currently Amended) A Dielectric direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 1, the coupling (16) means and the inner (18) wall being made in a single piece of the same material such as a metallic material.

13. (Currently Amended) A Coupling means direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 1, wherein said coupling means comprises a probe.

14. (Currently Amended) A Coupling means direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 13, wherein said the probe being adapted to present has different portions with different cross sections.